

## **William H. Gerstenmaier**



Gerstenmaier received a bachelor's degree in aeronautical engineering from Purdue University, Ind., in 1977; and a master's degree in mechanical engineering from the University of Toledo, Ohio, in 1981. In 1993, he completed course work for a doctorate in dynamics and control, with a minor in propulsion, at Purdue.

Gerstenmaier began his NASA career in 1977 at the Glenn Research Center in Cleveland performing aeronautical research and was involved with wind tunnel tests on the Space Shuttle. In 1980, he joined the Space Shuttle program as Propulsion Flight Controller and in 1992 Gerstenmaier got his first managerial assignment for the Orbital Maneuvering Vehicle project at Johnson.

In 1990, he led the Space Shuttle/Space Station Freedom Assembly Operations Office, responsible for resolving technical assembly issues and developing assembly strategies for what would eventually become the International Space Station.

Gerstenmaier was selected in 1995 to be the operations lead in Moscow for the first phase of the Shuttle-Mir program, serving as primary interface to the Russian Space Agency for operational issues between the Space Shuttle program and Russia's Mir space Station. He also was responsible for the daily activities as well as the health and safety of NASA astronauts on Mir. In 1998, Gerstenmaier was named Space Shuttle Program integration manager. In December 2000 he was selected as deputy manager of the International Space Station Program, where he was responsible for the day-to-day operations.

Selected in 2002 as manager of the International Space Station program, Gerstenmaier was responsible for the overall management, development, integration, and operation of the project, including the design, manufacture, testing, and delivery of complex space flight hardware and software, and working directly with the program's international partners.

Since June 2002, Gerstenmaier has been program manager of the International Space Station Office at NASA's Johnson Space Center in Houston.

As associate administrator for the Space Operations Mission Directorate, Gerstenmaier directs NASA's human exploration of space. He also has programmatic oversight for International Space Station, Space Shuttle, Space Communications and Space Launch Vehicles.